

**Cullompton Swimming Pool Campaign**  
**Committee Meeting 40**  
**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2014, Padbrook Park**

Present: Dave Haslett (Chair), Mary Christie (minutes), Roy Gould, Trevor Watkins, Lynn Craddock, Kevin Hurford, Cat Margrie

Apologies: Lynne Read, Joyce Giffard, Meryle Staddon, Camille Harrison

**1. Acceptance of previous minutes**

Unanimous.

**2. Updates and matters arising from previous minutes**

Roy has not yet spoken to Neil Parish MP about sports funding.

**Action Point** – Roy to speak to Neil Parish.

**3. Shop Update**

Odours

Trevor reported that people with body odour were coming into the shop, causing complaints from customers. He wanted advice from the committee on how to deal with this. Dave said this issue must have occurred in other shops, so it would be worth asking them. It would also be worth searching online for best practices in dealing with this.

Some of the volunteers have reported that the clothing stored in sacks is smelling, probably due to damp items being included. Unfortunately we do not have any way of laundering them.

**Action Point** – Mary to check the condition of the bagged clothing and find out where the smell is coming from.

Stock

Trevor and Dave recommended reducing the amount of clothing on sale as it doesn't sell anything like as well as the bric-a-brac or books. Some of the clothing rails have also collapsed a few times due to overloading and Trevor said he was concerned about the health and safety aspect.

We agreed to reduce the amount of clothing on sale and reuse the space for things that will sell better. We decided to have a week-long clothing sale to clear the winter stock, with everything being sold for £1. After that, only items in excellent condition will be sold on the rails, with everything else being sent for recycling immediately.

Training

Dave previously suggested offering NVQ courses in shop work as a way of getting more volunteers. Trevor has found out more about this and said we would have to pay £2.80 an hour per trainee, so it wouldn't be viable at the moment.

Dave wondered if there might be grants available for this, and Roy agreed to find out.

**Action Point** – Roy to find out whether there are any grants available for staff training/NVQs.

#### Water leak

The landlord has fixed the leaking shower in the flat upstairs and will replace the light in the shop that was affected by this as soon as everything has dried out.

#### Takings

The shop continues to generate a reasonable profit, though takings were down over Christmas. Takings for the period 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2013 to 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2014 were £1,232.02 – though we were only open for 2 days during one of those weeks.

Trevor reported that the second hand furniture shop near us might be closing, which will benefit us. Takings are also likely to increase when the better weather arrives, and with the reallocation of shop floor space after the clothes sale.

#### Extension of lease

The committee voted unanimously to extend the shop lease by 6 months to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2014. We will review this again in August.

**Action Point** – Dave to inform the landlord of our decision to extend the lease.

### **4. Fundraising Team Update**

#### Auction of Promises

Mary reported that we have received 22 promises so far, of the 25 that we agreed to get as part of our joint venture with the Community Centre. However, the Community Centre has only managed to get 4 promises out of their 25.

Dave said we should have a contingency plan in case the Community Centre decides to withdraw from the auction. We would need to find another venue and try to get at least 40 promises ourselves.

Mary said she had found face-to-face contact with potential donors much more fruitful than sending letters or emails.

**Action Point** – Mary to arrange a meeting with the Community Centre Manager David Quinn before our next fundraising team meeting on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February.

**Action Point** – Dave and Mary to make a contingency plan.

#### Fashionable Fundraising

Mary has attended a number of meetings about this event and things are moving forward. We have enough volunteers for this event.

#### Flowers, Craft and Art Event

Mary reported that the displays will be set up in the church and Community Centre on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July. The main event will be on Friday 5<sup>th</sup>, extending into Saturday 6<sup>th</sup>, but there is a wedding at the church on the Saturday that will impact on things.

We will only need to man our promotional stall during busy periods or when anyone is available.

### Carnival Float

Mary, Roy, Cat and Dave will get together in the near future to discuss the decoration and theme of the float.

**Action Point** – this meeting is to be arranged at our next meeting.

Roy said it would be a good idea to have under-cover storage for the float while it is decorated (April to October). It can be stripped down and the trailer returned to its owners at the Grand Western Canal for the winter.

**Action Point** – All committee members to look out for a suitable storage space for the float, and also storage space that we could use for shop stock and equipment.

**Action Point** – Roy to contact the surrounding towns and villages which have summer fêtes to establish dates when we could take the float along.

### Christmas lights parade

Dave said the date of this year's parade will be Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December. Organisers are hoping to run the parade in the reverse direction, starting at Station Road car park and ending at the Lower Bull Ring where the main entertainment will be located.

## **5. Feasibility Team Update**

Dave said we ought to look at the hundreds of small grants available and see if we can apply for any of them, as we are currently missing out. Each application will need to state what the grant will be used for, so we will need to compile a list of smaller things that we need to fund.

Cullompton Town Council will be appointing a dedicated grants officer during the coming financial year, so it would be a good idea to see if we can work with him/her.

**Action Point** – Roy and James to continue monitoring the grants situation.

Roy said it would be better for us to register as a charity in our own right rather than being affiliated to the CCA. Dave confirmed that this was the eventual aim.

Mary asked when we would be starting the survey, as we agreed it would be in March. Dave said we would make the final arrangements at our next meeting (11<sup>th</sup> March) and the survey could then begin immediately.

## **6. Any other business**

### Neighbourhood Plan

Roy said the Cullompton Neighbourhood Planning Team was looking at carrying out a house-to-house survey during April. He said they would consider including some of the questions from our own survey.

**Action Point** – to discuss further at our next meeting.

### Town Team

Dave said he understood the Town Team was planning to give folders of information about Cullompton to the estate agents. These would be given to newcomers to the town when they purchased houses here. Dave wondered if we should include a leaflet about our campaign. Roy

agreed this was a good idea. We would need to design and print about 1,000 leaflets that wouldn't go out of date.

**Action Point** – Dave to look at designing a suitable leaflet or letter.

### Sports Relief

Roy suggested putting a poster about Sports Relief (21<sup>st</sup> March) in our shop window if we could get one. This would demonstrate to everyone that we are aware of it – we should be seen to be promoting sporting events.

**Action Point** – everyone to look out for a Sports Relief poster we could display.

### Uffculme Primary School pool closure

A recent newspaper article reported that Uffculme Primary School's swimming pool is to be filled in. Mary suggested we contact them and encourage them to support our campaign. Dave said he didn't know whether they had been in touch with Lynne, as she wrote to all the schools last year.

**Action Point** – Dave to ask Lynne about this when she returns, and to arrange to contact/visit Uffculme Primary School if they have not been in touch.

### Leaflets

Lynn asked if an updated version of our leaflet will be available which includes all the fundraising events for 2014. Dave said he would produce a new one, but most of the leaflets we printed last time are still in the shop as staff have not been handing them out or encouraging people to take them.

Apart from the list of events, the information in the current leaflets has not changed. The current leaflet lists most of the events but does not give dates, which are subject to change anyway. It might be better to list the events on a poster in the shop.

**Action Point** – Dave to update the current leaflet and produce a poster listing the fundraising events for display in the shop.

### 100 Club

Camille is unable to do the 100 Club draw this month as she is having her baby. Dave will take it over until she returns.

### T-Shirts

Dave said we needed to order some more t-shirts as we only have small and medium ones left. We need some large and extra large and some in children's sizes. We need to order 25 shirts in total – the cost will be about £120.

**Action Point** – Dave to find out what children's sizes are available.

### **Date of next meeting**

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March at 6.30 pm at the Swimming Pool Campaign shop  
(15 Fore Street, Cullompton)